

Catholic Theatre Conference

PRODUCTION CALENDAR

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EMMET LAVERY KEY-NOTE SPEAKER

Sister Mary Carmelia, B.V.M., co-chairman of the 1951 convention, announces that Emmet Lavery will be the key-note speaker.

The opening day will be an illustrious one with Solemn Pontifical Mass at Holy Name Cathedral. His Eminence, Samuel Cardinal Stritch, will preside and Most Rev. William D. O'Brien will be the Celebrant.

Luncheon in the Gold Coast Room of the Drake Hotel will be highlighted with Guests of Honor including Cardinal Stritch, Bishop O'Brien, Brigadier General David Sarnoff, Chairman of the Board, Radio Corporation of America, Mr. Frank M. Folsom, President - R.C.A., Rev. Joseph G. Phoenix, C.M., De Paul University and Mr. Lee Mitchell of Northwestern University and President of American Educational Theatre Association.

Speakers at the opening General Session include Brig. General Sarnoff and Sister Mary Josephine, President of Mundelein College. Mr. Joseph Rice, Conference President, will preside at the Luncheon. Mr. David Itkin, Convention Co-chairman and director at De Paul University, will preside at the General Session.

CONVENTION PROGRAM NOTES

Several changes in and additions to the Convention Schedule have occurred since the mailing of the Preliminary Program.

Due to Mr. Lavery having to return to Hollywood almost immediately after being the key-note speaker, the production of his play, *FENELON*, by the De Paul University Players, will be given Wednesday evening, June 13, instead of Thursday.

CRADLE SONG, originally scheduled for production Wednesday evening by the Rosary College Grex Guild, has been changed to Thursday. The Tea at Rosary College will be given on Friday afternoon; the showing of films on Theatre and Speech will be Thursday afternoon. These two events are merely a reversal of the original plan.

Playright Alice Gerstenberg and Nora MacAlvay of Book Fairs, Inc., have been added as speakers on the Playwriting Panel under the chairmanship of Frank Ford, Fordham University, author of "Lucifer at Large" and "Kingdom of the Blind".

John C. Weaver, director of Dayton Blackfriars, will be an added speaker on the Discussion Panel for Catholic Theatre of Detroit's production of "The Rivals". James Waring, Catholic University, will join the panel on Theatre in the Round.

ADVANCE REGISTRATIONS

Convention registrations over two weeks in advance of the opening reached the 200 mark, excluding local registrants from the Chicago area. As most registrations on all conventions pour in during the last two weeks it is expected that the registration will reach at least 500. Attendance by Chicago directors, students and interested observers should swell the figure to close to 1,000. The Chicago area is the highest in number of Conference members, especially among the high schools.

Miss Therese Marie Cuny, who directs at Academy of Our Lady-Longwood and Providence High School, Chicago, is bringing over 80. Sister Charitas of Holy Angels Academy, Minneapolis and Chairman of the North-Central Region, has sent into convention headquarters 55 paid registrations. Representatives from the Catholic Theatre of Detroit will number close to 30.

1951 CATHOLIC THEATRE ON SALE AT CONVENTION

Copies of the 1951 CATHOLIC THEATRE will be available throughout the convention. Those who did not purchase a copy when they were ordered by each group can purchase individual copies for their own use. The magazine sells at \$1.00 and is a pictorial as well as written record of what was produced Cross-Country in Catholic theatre during the 1949-50 season. The magazine also contains articles by Conference members and representatives from the professional fields.

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POINTS OF INFORMATION

Constitutional rulings permit members (\$10.00), either group or individual, and Sustaining Members (\$25.00), either group or individual, ONE vote at the convention and in all balloting. Groups are advised to select one individual as their official delegate. Subscribers (\$3.00) may be named to office or appointment but

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NOMINEES

Sister Thomas More, O.P., Saint Clara Academy, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, is chairman of the Nominating Committee. As current Board member and having served in this capacity for several terms, Sister Thomas More is well acquainted with the requisites necessary for a good Executive Board member.

The following names are offered in nomination. Additional ones may be made from the floor of the Convention business meeting. Those herewith listed expressed a willingness to serve and gave permission for their names to be placed in nomination:

SISTER ANGELITA, B.V.M. - director at Immaculate Conception Academy, Davenport, Iowa. Former chairman of the Central Region under whose leadership the region was built to the highest membership in the Conference.

REV. JAMES DONOHUE - author and adapter of many plays; closely associated with all production work at Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa and former President of the Conference, 1945-57.

BURDETTE FITZGERALD - former director at College of Holy Names, Oakland, Calif., now at University of San Francisco, specializing in training directors for Children's Theatre. Is Past Chairman of National Committee on Children's Theatre, American Educational Theatre Association. Currently chairman of our Conference Pacific Southwest Region.

REV. ANTHONY JULIANO - chairman of Pacific Northwest Region under whose guidance this virgin territory has been built into a thriving region in just two years. Graduate of Loras College, where he was active in all phases of play production. Currently is director at Central Catholic High School, Portland, Oregon.

EDGAR L. KLOTEN - Head of theatre division, Fordham University. Chairman of Mid-Atlantic Region. Graduate of St. Canisius College, Buffalo and Catholic University. Formerly associated with Washington Blackfriars, will direct season of Summer Stock in Oakridge, New Jersey.

NEW PLAN OF OPERATION PROPOSED

A new plan of operation and procedure for the Conference will be presented to the Executive Board and to the Convention by Rev. Urban Nagle, New York Blackfriars. This plan has been under discussion during the past two months by Conference President, Jos. F. Rice, Father Nagle, Miss Passmore and the person who will be the key figure behind it.

This plan would mean new, larger and more adequate office space, wrapping facilities for the library service, collection of long past due Accounts Receivable, which in turn would lead to payment of our Accounts Payable. Saving of time in these fields would lead to more time for correspondence. The whole idea can lead the Conference into new channels and insure a brighter and more productive future.

PRODUCTION CALENDAR

Since the resignation of former editor, Robert Emerich, no new editor was appointed. Your secretary has edited this issue to bring you latest news on the convention and to bring you the names of the nominees, which must be submitted to members in advance of the convention, according to our constitution. The problem of whether the Secretary-Treasurership is to be elective or appointive in the future delayed the work of the Nominating Committee. Therefore this issue is going to you via first class in order to reach you in time.

Immediately upon appointment of a new editor reports of the convention and elections will be forwarded to all members. Included also will be Work Production Sheets compiled by Leo Brady of Catholic University and Rev. Guy E. Guyon of Boys' Central Catholic High School, Green Bay, Wisc. These cover all production data on several plays. The Cross-Country Circuit and Mrs. Wyatt's BROADWAY COMMENTS will be resumed.

RESIGNATION SUBMITTED

Margaret Passmore, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, submitted her resignation as of last December 28, originally to be effective as of June 16 at the close of the convention. During the ensuing months it was necessary to be absent from the office from time to time due to illness. Having returned to serve up to convention time the resignation is definitely effective as of that date. After a two week vacation period she will return to New York and will acquaint her successor in the functions of the Service Bureau.

As this goes to press the names of two persons have been recommended, both having excellent backgrounds and well fitted to the position. The names have not been placed among the nominees as there have been suggestions and recommendations to divide the Executive Secretary-Treasurership into two offices with the possibilities of having both elective or just the treasurer elective and the secretary appointed or hired. In any event it will be a subject for Board deliberation and presentation to the convention.

SCRIPT ON MOTHER SETON SOUGHT

Monsignor John S. Randall, Christopher Press, invites playwrights to submit scripts of a full length three act play on the life of Mother Seton. He feels there is a wide market for such material and if a good script can be offered the playwright would be handsomely rewarded. The Christopher Press published CITY OF KINGS by Rev. Urban Nagle, O.P.

Scripts may be sent to Msgr. Randall at 35 Scio Street, Rochester 4, New York in care of Christopher Press or the Catholic Courier Journal, for which Monsignor is Managing Editor.

1951 CATHOLIC THEATRE
MAGAZINE (cont'd.)

Expenses on the magazine amounted to \$2300.00. There is a very sizeable balance still due. Members attending the convention are urged to take home a "souvenir" copy if one has not already been purchased. Members not attending may still purchase copies from the stock on hand at the Service Bureau.

POINTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd.)

may not vote nor propose legislation and policies. (ORDER II - Sections 1, 2 and 3)

Life Members and Honorary Members enjoy the same office-holding and voting privileges as members.

PROXY VOTES: - Any person qualified to hold a seat or cast a vote at any meeting of the Conference shall be allowed to sit or vote by proxy provided that such proxy shall be in writing, signed and filed with the chairman at the meeting for which it is intended. - CONSTITUTIONAL RULES OF ORDER #II.

The convention is governed by the Revised Robert's Rules of Order

NOMINEES (cont'd.)

RAYMOND L. MCCARNEY - Philopatrian Theatre Guild, Philadelphia, officer and director. Advertising Manager of Phila. diocesan paper, Catholic Standard and Times; President of own Agency; consultant to Catholic Press Association; Phila. representative of Extension Magazine; also Army-Times and other secular papers. Promotional and idea-minded.

REV. URBAN NAGLE, O.P. - playwright, author of LADY OF FATIMA, CITY OF KINGS, ARMOR OF LIGHT, BARTER, ETC. Blackfriars Guild, New York City. One of Conference founders; member of Board; adviser and consultant for Executive Secretary

NOMINEES (Cont'd.)

SISTER PATRICIA ANN - director at Nazareth College, Nazareth, Kentucky. Current chairman of East-Central Region.

MRS. CHRISTOPHER WYATT - drama critic, THE CATHOLIC WORLD. Member of Conference Executive Board 1937-1949. Consultant, stand-by and source of information for Executive Secretary. Play reviewer for Conference for new manuscripts submitted to Service Bureau and for current Broadway productions.

FELIX DOHERTY - Playwright - author of SONG OUT OF SORROW, THE KING'S SERVANT and SON OF MAN. Head of Public Relations for Boston College. Current chairman of New England Region.

The Executive Board is comprised of nine members. Eight are to be elected. Mr. Jos. F. Rice as Past-President will automatically be the ninth member. The eight elected by the Convention delegates will choose from among their number the officers for 1951-53.

FINAL NOTES

Good luck and Godspeed to the outgoing Executive Board and officers and an advance word of welcome to the incoming. May your efforts mold the Conference affairs to an inspiring and invigorating future.

A world of heart-felt gratitude to Convention General Chairmen: Sister Mary Carmelia and Sister Mary Jeanelle of Mundelein College and Mr. David Itkin and to the members of their Planning Committee. Their efforts have made possible a well-planned convention, which can serve as the spark-plug for plans to make the Conference thriving and efficient.

And a thousand thanks to the Carroll Club who has made office space available during the past two years at a very nominable rent.

